

Learning what it's like 'in the real world'

School students get on-the-job training as part of education

By David Ferreira
"Jet 48" correspondent

Nearly 50 students at the RAF Lakenheath American High School are breaking down the walls of traditional education and are getting on-the-job training in place of a normal class time.

The school's cooperative work experience program offers students the opportunity to go to a job site during the school day, keep a time card and have responsibilities like any normal job.

It's designed to help ease the students transition from high school to their work place, according to Jack Galloway, the cooperative work experience coordinator. The only difference is that most students are paid with graduation credits instead of money, except for a few students working in various Army and Air Force Exchange Service and services facilities who receive both.

"I think the program is very successful in providing students with work experience, especially to those who may wish to pursue a future career in a related field," said Gallo-

way. "These students get to see what the job they may wish to do is all about."

Participants work all over the base in various offices, such as public affairs, the post office, library, legal office, base exchange and the elementary school. They leave school at various times, depending on the day of the week, taking the program in place of other electives.

Most students seem to like the idea.

"Cooperative work experience allows me to interact with people other than my peers," said Tracy Marshall, a student who works at Electric Avenue.

"It's educational and it's nice to be in a different learning environment," said Bridget Stancil, a student who works at the library.

Not only does cooperative work experience allow students to experience what the work field is like, it also offers some students training they can put on job and college applications. For example, Red Cross life-saving courses and working as a Red Cross volunteer, said Windy Franklin, a student at the family advocacy office.

Students and teachers aren't the only ones who think the program is useful. Supervisors do, too.

"The students have all been good about completing their tasks, and learning to work with other people, which will be a valuable asset to their future," said Rusty Sweatt, a student supervisor at Electric Avenue.

"Overall the school and the community

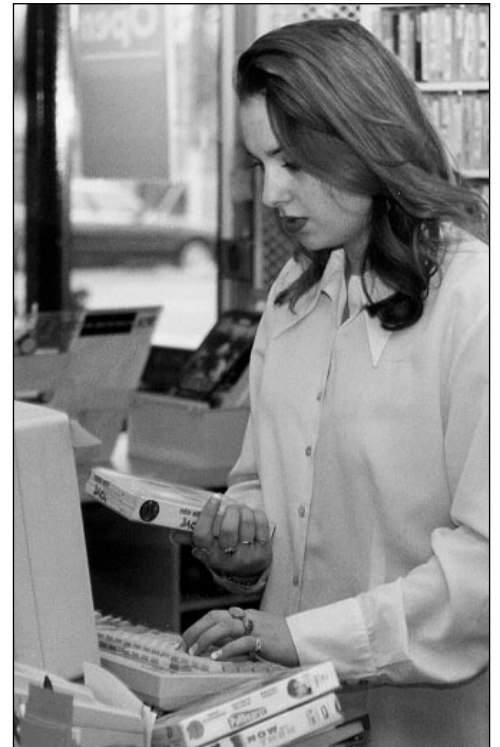


Photo by David Ferreira

Tracy Marshall logs a movie into the computer at Electric Avenue.

have both been very cooperative in making the program run smoothly," said Galloway.

People can contact Galloway at Ext. 3115 if they have questions or potential work sites for the students.



Photo by SSgt. Steve Ball

Wing plans office moves to new location

SrA. Jody McDonald reviews a plan in wing plans' new location. The office moved to Bldg. 1159 Feb. 20 - 21. The new location is in the old security police building near the fire department.

March is Women's History Month



Constance Motley

A member of Thurgood Marshall's inner-circle of attorneys, Constance Motley served as an associate counsel for the Legal Defense Fund specializing in housing issues. She orchestrated and successfully argued the case that led to James Meredith being admitted to the University of Mississippi in 1961. After a twenty-year tenure with the Legal Defense fund, she became the first African-American woman to be appointed to a federal judgeship.